

Note for Pollak, Lee

From: Smith, Owen
Date: Fri, May 20, 1994 9:53 AM
Subject: FW: GAO RE: NICOTINE
To: Parrish, Steve; Pollak, Lee; Schardt, Jim

GAO-Nicotine is still on hold while GAO talks with Sen Kennedy's staff about discontinuing GAO involvement and letting FDA finish.

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From: Scott, Gregory on Wed, May 18, 1994 4:04 PM
Subject: FW: GAO RE: NICOTINE
To: Burnley, Harold; Linehan, Kathleen; Smith, Owen

The GAO team FINALLY met with Weich---but they remain on hold. According to John Hansen, Weich found GAO's presentation on their visit to the Richmond MC "very enlightening." (He did not, of course, relate the substance of their presentation.) Weich said that he plans on meeting with the FDA group investigating nicotine before giving the GAO team any further instruction. They are unsure when Weich will be meeting with the FDA group. Hansen said they have no idea when Weich will get back to them; that Weich "... is still trying to figure out how we can do something without duplicating each other." Sally Jagger, who, you recall, is Hansen's boss, has a call into Weich to attempt to determine when he is meeting with the FDA. He indicated in so many words that they have other things to do and do not appreciate this standby status. He will call as soon as they find out from Weich about their future role in the investigation. Thx, Greg

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From: Scott, Gregory on Wed, May 11, 1994 3:01 PM
Subject: FW: GAO RE: NICOTINE
To: Burnley, Harold; Linehan, Kathleen; Smith, Owen

John Hansen called to relate that, once again, the meeting with Weich was postponed until Friday morning (May 13). Hansen said they were told that Weich was preoccupied with Kennedy's health care bill and the crime bill. John apologized once again for any inconvenience this may be causing us. His frustration was evident-- he said that "... between you and me, I just hope they shit or get off the pot" as far as GAO's future involvement. It appears that this delay has, unfortunately, increased the GAO's desire to turn the investigation over to the FDA, which, as John repeated, they believe is "better equipped" to handle the investigation. Thx, Greg

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From: Scott, Gregory on Mon, May 9, 1994 3:35 PM
Subject: FW: GAO RE: NICOTINE
To: Linehan, Kathleen
Cc: Burnley, Harold; Smith, Owen

John Hansen called to relate that the meeting scheduled today with Ron Weich was postponed until Wednesday morning due to a problem with Weich's schedule. He

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apologized for any inconvenience this may have caused us as far as our offer to meet with them this week on patents. I told him that they have a standing invitation to request a briefing on patents or on any other relevant matter whenever convenient. He said he would get back to us following the meeting with Weich. Thx, Greg

From: Scott, Gregory on Fri, May 6, 1994 12:07 PM
Subject: GAO RE: NICOTINE
To: Linehan, Kathleen
Cc: Burnley, Harold; Smith, Owen

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Just got off the phone with John Hansen, who led the GAO investigative team to Richmond, to offer a meeting with them next week on patents and to determine whether they had met with Kennedy's staff to establish their future course of action. Hansen said they are meeting with Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources General Counsel Ron Weich on Monday to discuss what was learned on their visit to Richmond and to determine their next step. Hansen said he wants to delay making final decision on any future meetings with us until he obtains further direction from Weich. He again indicated that he will suggest delaying any further activity until the FDA completes its investigation. He thanked us once again and said that, earlier this week, Comptroller General Bowsher asked them to report on what they learned on the second day of the visit to Richmond. John said Bowsher was also grateful for our cooperation and extremely interested in the matter. Hansen said he would call me late Monday or Tuesday morning to inform us of their future plans. Thx, Greg

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